Revamping of National Dairy Development Board

3810. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of improved productivity due to efforts by the New Zealand Dairy Board, dairy farmers are on the top in earnings;

(b) whether it is a fact that a similar board was created in the country which has totally gone astray and instead of working on improved productivity it has diverted its attention to other fields of activities;

(c) whether Government propose to revamp the National Dairy Development Board and have a new Chairman as clearly provided for under the National Dairy Development Board Act; and

(d) whether Government also propose to bring the National Dairy Development Board under the purview of the Controller and Auditor General of India as provided under the Constitution of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Government do not have information about the working of the New Zealand Dairy Board.

(b) National Dairy Development Board is functioning in accordance with the provisions of National Dairy Development Board Act, 1987.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Govt.

Use of Pesticides in Agriculture

3811. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pesticides residues have long lasting toxicity on fruits and vegetables in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in most parts of the world much stress is being laid to reduce the use of pesticides in agriculture; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to reduce the use of pesticides in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Sir, the indiscriminate and excessive use of pesticides does result in toxic residues. However, only those pesticides which have low toxicity and short residual period are recommended for use on fruits and vegetables. Also, recommended 'Waiting period' has to be observed between treatment and harvest.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Integrated Pest Management methods which include environmentally friendly approaches like biological control, resistant varieties, cultural practices and judicious use are promoted for the control of agricultural pests.

Wasteful Expenditure on Agricultural Reseach Laboratories

3812. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General, in recent report, has revealed that there is a lot of Wasteful expenditure on their Agricultural Research laboratories which are engaged in aimless research without relevance to the Indian conditions;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken by Government to stop such wasteful expenditure;

(c) whether it is a fact that the annual budget of the Indian Council of Agriculture Research has been increasing from year to year; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the annual budget allocations to ICAR for the last five years and the reasons for the increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Sir, The report of the C & AG for the period ending 31.3.1992 has not been received. In the reports for 1987-88 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 no specific observation on a consolidated basis titled as "Wasteful expenditure on Agriculture Research Laboratories" has been made by the C & AG.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes.

(d) The details of the Budget allocation (RE) for the year from 1987-88 to 1991-92 are as under:—

Ruppes in Lakhs)

Year	Non-Plan	Plan
1987-88	8977.00	8200.00
1988-89	10990.00	9458.00
1989-90	13825.00	11269.00
1990-91	16362.00	15324.00
1991-92	16965.00	18026.00

Their increase is due to strenthening of the ongoing schemes, taking up of certain new schemes, general increase in establishement expendifure due to DA rates etc. and increase in the prices of Chemicals, Fertilizers & ancilliary items.

Fruits Policy

3813. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the second largest producer of fruits in the world;

(b) if so, the reasons for India's very poor share i.e. 0.9 percent in the world's fruits export;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Food and Agricultural Organisation study which has estimated that 40 per cent of Indian fruits perish, under scoring the ineffectual Indian approach to its export wealth;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to make fruits policy to tap the tremendous potential of India's fruit wealth; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Present levels of domenstic consumption do not generate large surpluses over production. Further lack of quality products and export related infrastructure have also inhibited exports.

(c) to (e) A number of schemes are under implementation by Food Processing Industry Ministry to preserve the fruits. A consolidated proposal for export enhancement programmes for VIII Plan Period have been formulated in coordination with Planning Commission and Ministry of Commerce.

गन्ने का खरीद मूल्य

3814. श्री एम नरेश यादव: क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) चालू वर्ष के लिए सरकार ने गन्ने की फसल के लिए प्रति क्विंटल कितना खरीद मूल्य निर्धारित किया है;

(ख) गन्ने की खरीद का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है; और